RPA Membership 2012-13

(Life Members *)

Charles Adrion
Bruno Antonini*
L. Kelly Armstrong*
Kathy Armstrong
William E. Arthur*
Duncan Barber
Karen Barber
Michael Bloch
David Bombard
Diane Bombard
Paul Brach
Fred Bradybaugh
William Brorein, Jr
Donald Brumbaugh
John Cali*
Nancy Clark*
Thomas S. Clark*
Robert A. De Lena
George DeKornfeld
Lisa Doiron
Dr Donald R. Dolan, Jr
Joseph Doles*
Don Drexler
Cheryl Edgcomb
Steven H. Eisinger
Jack Enicson
George Fekete
John B. Flannery
Thomas M. Fortunato
Dr. Peter Gleason*
Luis Greiff, Jr
Donald Grover
Richard Hall*
Barry Hartley
Frederick Haynes
Beverly Herzich*
Jack Holt*
Alex Hrabko
Mark Hull*
Mary Iman
Alice Johnson
Richard Kase*
Edwin Kawasaki
John Kellas III*
Robert Kingston
Walter Kusak
Anthony Labrum
Ezra Lempert*
Mark Lerner
John Laszak
John Lighthouse
Robert W. Lighthouse
Robert Looney
David Marcus
Scott A. Martz
Robert W. McCormick
Robert Meegan*
Carl Miller
Philip Minarik
Gordon Morison*
Olaf Muller
Sean O'Brien
Don Osborne
Al Parsons
Len Patti
Chuck Petersdorf
David Phillips
Ada Prill*
Marvin Raphael*
Larry Rausch
David Robinson
David Roehrig
John Rogers
Eileen Rogers
Jack Rosenstein*
Tracy Russo*
James Sands*
Mario Sarra
Mark Scheuer
Charles Schultz*
Robert Searjeant*
Robert Small
Mary M. Smith
Richard Spinelli
Elli Steeb*
John Stoltz
Raymond Stone*
Stephen Suffet
Hans Susstrunk
James Trenton*
Ann Triggle*
Frank Tritto*
John van der Ven
Tonny van Loji
Donald Vanselow
Claude B. van Volkenburg
Florence Wright
Roger W. Zaenglein
Dave Zenkel

We're glad so many of our members and their guests were able to join us this evening. The next issue of our club's newsletter, *Hinges & Tongs*, will feature a write-up and photographs from tonight's events, as will our web site. Please make sure to check both out and help us identify everyone in each photo!

Rochester Philatelic Association 100Th Anniversary Dinner

March 12, 2013 Locust Hill Country Club

Cocktails 6:00-6:30 PM

International and Domestic Cheeses • Fresh Fruit • Crackers

- Welcome and Introduction of Attendees
  President Tom Fortunato
- Champagne Toast
  Florence Wright, courtesy of Gordon Morison

Dinner is Served 6:45 PM

House Salad • Rolls and Butter • Steamed Seasonal Vegetables • Wild Rice Shallot Whipped Potatoes • Flank Steak with Roasted Garlic and Rosemary Demi Glaze • Chicken French with Sherry Lemon Butter Sauce Cookies • Brownies • Coffee and Tea

- Correspondences from Absent Members
  Florence Wright
- Notable Events and Members in RPA History
  Tom Fortunato
- The Psychology of Collecting
  Rich Spinelli
- Philatelic Tie-Ins of March 12 in History
  Don Grover
- One Hundred Years of RPA Souvenirs and Mementos
  Rick Kase and Joe Doles
- RPA Memories
  Attendees encouraged to share remembrances
- Temporary Sealing of the 2nd Century Time Capsule
  Tom Fortunato

Good Night

2013: A Celebratory Year for Us

It's rare that any organization can claim to have been around for a hundred years. The postage stamp was 73 years young by the time the RPA was founded in 1913. Mail was the primary affordable person-to-person means of communication back then, delivered twice daily to most households in the US. It was the humble stamp on that letter or parcel that made it possible, acting as a tiny ambassador depicting and promoting the people, places, culture and events of the issuing country.

So much has changed this past century: Man has explored the deepest depths of the ocean, conquered the highest mountains, walked on the moon and sent spacecraft to the very edge of our galaxy. Emails and texting send messages instantaneously to anyone with a computer or phone. However stamps and the mail still play a role in today's world, ensuring a future for our hobby.

Tonight we can proudly call ourselves stamp collectors and members of the Rochester Philatelic Association. Thank you for your comradeship and willingness to share your time, knowledge and talents furthering the goals of the RPA. There's more to come! Attend our big ROPEX/NTSS 2013 Stamp Show in May!

Special thanks to…

The Centennial Banquet Committee:

- Florence Wright- Hospitality and Reservations
- Don Grover- Banquet Facility Liaison
- Rich Spinelli- Banquet Program and Door Prizes

- Joe Doles- Cancel and Cachet Design, RPA Souvenir Table
- Rick Kase- Postal Service Liaison, RPA Souvenir Table
- Dave Robinson- Photography
- Jeannine Bianchi, USPS- Postal Service Items Display

Rochester Philatelic Association
PO Box 10206 Brighton Station, Rochester, NY 14610-0206
http://www.rpastamps.org

<u>2012-13 Officers</u>

President- Tom Fortunato Vice President- Ray Stone
Recording Secretary- Frank Tritto Treasurer- Dave Robinson
Board: Rick Kase, Bob Kingston, Chuck Schultz

The Early Years of the RPA

(Excerpts from the online club history)

It all began officially on March 26, 1913 at 8 PM in the lobby of the Hotel Rochester. Two weeks earlier, on March 12, thirteen men banded together agreeing to call themselves the Rochester Philatelic Association and paying their $2 annual dues to become founding members. These men were: L.S. Richardson (President), M.F. Ottly (Vice President), Fred E. Merritt (Treasurer), Freeman C. Allen (Recording Secretary), Paul Wild (Librarian), Woolf H. Amberg, L.L. Albright, Harvey J. Haddleton, Dr. George P. French (a nationally recognized philatelist at the time), M. R. Burton, Dr. Sigmund Handler, William A. Carr and John S. Williamson.

Two other attendees decided not to join, but by the meeting on the 26th, some 19 paid members were present. The men agreed to meet the fourth Wednesday of every month to further their collecting interests. There was no actual rental fee for meeting in the Hotel Rochester's lobby, however minutes of the next few gatherings note that 50 cents was paid each night to the porter, who made the scheduling arrangements with the hotel.

From the beginning there were strong ties between the RPA and the already established Rochester Numismatic Association, with some members belonging to both groups. There were early discussions to determine if the two groups could jointly find a common meeting place, which never came to fruition.

In fact, finding a permanent meeting site was always a problem in the early stages of the RPA. Over the next few years the RPA met at the Surrogate Court Room of the Monroe County Court House, the Rochester YMCA, the Ellwanger Barry Building (where Paul Wild had his Covert Stamp Company office) as well as the Hotel Rochester. One reason was economic, as 50 cents for the porter was a tidy sum in those days. The other was for space, as the membership ebbed and flowed.

The RPA agreed to join the American Philatelic Society in a meeting on September 24, 1913. By November 26 there were four junior members in the club who each paid dues of 50 cents per year. The first woman member joined in June, 1914, referred in the minutes as "Mrs. Zimmerman." She paid her dues at that meeting, but her name never again appears in latter RPA meeting minutes as attending.